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specification at page 9, lines 19-22, a pushed alert "is triggered by a change in the total number of messages," and "can be triggered under user configurable circumstances (e.g. a predetermined period of time) and/or a change in the status of a wireless device." In contrast, Gustafsson teaches in Fig. 5 and the accompanying text sections already cited by the Office that information delivery is initiated by a request message (502) from the wireless device (500). Claims 1 and 9 therefore distinguish the cited combination because the claimed invention does not employ a request message to prompt transmission of an alert. In particular, claim 1 recites "pushing the alert to a wireless device" and claim 9 recites "means for pushing the alert to a wireless device." Consequently, Applicant requests that the rejections of claims 1 and 9 be withdrawn.

The Office rejected claim 17 under 35 USC §103 over Bobo in view of Matthews. Specifically, the Office suggests that Bobo teaches the notification server and push alerts to wireless devices at the Abstract, Fig. 2, col. 7, lines 57-67, col. 8, lines 1-12 and col. 9, lines 21-29. Claim 17 has been amended to recite use of a Wireless Access Protocol (WAP) push protocol. The Office has already conceded at Page 3 of the Office Action that Bobo fails to teach "pushing the alert using a Wireless Access Protocol (WAP) push protocol." Claim 17 is therefore allowable for that reason and also for the reasons stated above with regard to claims 1 and 9. Applicant requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of claim 17.

Claims 2-4, 6-8, 10-12, 15-16, and 18-19 are dependent claims which further distinguish their respective base claims. These claims are allowable for at least the reasons set forth above with regard to those base claims and Applicant therefore requests that the rejections of claims 2-4, 6-8, 10-12, 15-16, and 18-19 be withdrawn.

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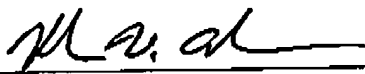
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Applicants have made a diligent effort to place the claims in condition for allowance. However, should there remain unresolved issues that require adverse action, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone Holmes W. Anderson, Applicants' Attorney at 978-264-6664 (X305) so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

For these reasons, and in view of the above amendments, this application is now considered to be in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,

20 May 2004
Date


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Claim 1 (previously amended) A method for managing message events associated with a plurality of message feeds provided to a user in a communication system, the method comprising the steps of:

collecting information regarding at least two message events associated with each of the message feeds;

updating a list of messages for the user based on the collected information;

preparing an alert based on the updated list of messages;

pushing the alert to a wireless device associated with the user using a Wireless Access Protocol (WAP) push protocol, the alert including an indication of the most recent message event of the plurality of message events; and

archiving information associated with the updated list of messages.

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Claim 2 (original) A method according to claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

providing a link in the pushed alert for accessing the archived information via a wireless interface.

Claim 3 (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the message feeds comprise two or more of voice mail, fax mail, email, and an information source.

Claim 4 (original) A method according to claim 3, wherein the message events include one or more of a newly received voice mail, a deleted voice mail a read voice mail, a newly received email, a deleted email, a read email, a newly received fax, a deleted fax, a newly received information message, a deleted information message, a read information message, and a missed phone call.

Claim 5 (Cancelled)

Claim 6 (previously amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein the preparing step includes the step of preparing the indication of a most recent one of the message events.

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Claim 7 (original) A method according to claim 6, wherein the preparing step includes the step of preparing an identification of a caller associated with the most recent message event.

Claim 8 (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the preparing step includes the step of preparing a respective total of messages associated with each of the message feeds.

Claim 9 (previously amended) An apparatus for managing message events associated with a plurality of message feeds provided to a user in a communication system, the apparatus comprising:

- means for collecting information regarding at least two message events associated with the message feeds;
- means for updating a list of messages for the user based on the collected information;
- means for preparing an alert based on the updated list of messages, the alert including an indication of which of the plurality of message events is a most recent message event;
- means for pushing the alert to a wireless device associated with the user using a Wireless Access Protocol (WAP) push protocol; and
- means for archiving information associated with the updated list of messages.

Claim 10 (original) An apparatus according to claim 9, further comprising:

- means for providing a link in the pushed alert for accessing the archived information via a wireless interface.

Claim 11 (original) An apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the message feeds comprise two or more of voice mail, fax mail, email, and an information source.

Claim 12 (original) An apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the message events include one or more of a newly received voice mail, a deleted voice mail a read voice mail, a newly received email, a deleted email, a read email, a newly received fax, a deleted fax, a newly received

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information message, a deleted information message, a read information message, and a missed phone call.

Claim 13 (Cancelled).

Claim 14(Cancelled).

Claim 15 (original) An apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the preparing means includes means for preparing an identification of a caller associated with the most recent message event.

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Claim 16 (original) An apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the preparing means includes means for preparing a respective total of messages associated with each of the message feeds.

Claim 17 (currently amended) An apparatus for providing notifications about messages in a communication system including a first messaging server adapted to store messages from a first message feed for a plurality of users and a second messaging server adapted to store messages from a second message feed for the plurality of users, the first message feed and second message feed being associated with different types of messages, the apparatus comprising:

a notification server adapted to be coupled to both of the first and second messaging servers, the notification server collecting information about at least two messages stored for certain of the plurality of users by the first message feed and the second message feed, the notification server being adapted to push alerts using a Wireless Access Protocol (WAP) push protocol based on the collected information to wireless devices associated with the certain users;

an archive coupled to the notification server for storing message headers based on the collected information, the pushed alerts including a link for accessing the archive and an indication of the most recent one of the plurality of messages;

wherein the communication system further includes a PBX coupled to a plurality of office phones associated with the certain users, one of the first and second message feeds being voice mail associated with the office phones.

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Claim 18 (original) An apparatus according to claim 17, further comprising:

a wireless interface adapted to communicate with the wireless device in response to selection of the link included in the pushed alerts.

Claim 19 (original) An apparatus according to claim 17, wherein the first message feed comprises one of a voice mail, fax mail, email, and an information source, and the second message feed comprises a different one of the voice mail, fax mail, email, and the information source.

Claim 20 (Cancelled).

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